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APRIL 2004 Official Newsletter



80th ASG COMMANDER
"Sharpen the Sword"

COL Timothy J. Quinn

Happy Spring! This is my favorite season in Belgium. What a huge relief it is to be able to get outside once again and enjoy this beautiful countryside. Take advantage of the nicer weather by playing sports, mow your lawn, walk your dog, throw a ball to a child, or jog along the canal in the early morning. If that doesn't excite you, grab your family and patrol through some of the great antique markets dotting the villages and towns on the weekends. Or take a walk along the beach, or in the Ardennes. Enjoy a cup of hot coffee or chocolate in the sun at a café somewhere. Revel in the sunshine!

Congratulations to the Scholarship Committee and all who helped them put on the Spring Bazaar. I know there will be some grateful seniors!

Thanks to the 80th ASG's team of volunteers who work on the Family Readiness Group. It isn't easy to pull together a group as diverse as ours, with soldiers, spouses, kids, US and Belgian civilian employees. But you are doing a terrific job, and people are participating! Come try it out!

We are beginning to enter the season of PCS moves. It will start getting hectic in May and June with many folks leaving and coming at the same time. If you are a sponsor - take the job seriously. Talk to the Relo folks and get a packet to send your newcomer, as well as some tips on how to make this transition easier. Be on the lookout for American houses for folks coming in - especially if they aren't arriving until later in the summer, when the majority of houses will be gone. And if you are sponsoring the person who is replacing you - find someone who will be here after you leave to help the newcomers with the nitty gritty of settling in.

Be very careful as you are driving. New laws are in effect, and there are serious consequences for any violations. Find out what the laws are, and obey them. Be especially careful in the many construction zones along Rue d'Ath and other roads - the speed limit is strictly enforced!

Finally, if you are going away during the Easter break, be cautious. Don't stand out, and don't be a target. Be safe, and have a great time!

FRG (Family Readiness Group)**067-55.30.04**

- ☺ **Family Day:** On Saturday, March 20th, we went on our 2nd Family Fun Day, this time to Namur. Thanks to FRG for organizing this trip, to HHC for providing our bus transportation (and drivers), to all of you who contributed to our last fundraiser which allowed us to offset the cost by 10 Euros per person. It was an excellent day, and a really nice mix of soldiers, civilians, spouses and kids.
- ☺ **FRG Meeting:** Wednesday, April 21st, at 1830, Bldg 18 (HHC) on Daumerie Caserne, for a fun, informative social and meeting. We will be discussing our next Family Fun Day (which will be on 5 June), fundraisers (May 1st and July 4th), and the next "Troc Trot" adventure! Don't miss out! If you can, please bring a dish or snack to share.
- ☺ **Troc Trot:** We went to the Antiques Market in Tongeren on the 28th of March. These were the really dedicated "Troc-ers" as we had to leave at 6am (which actually turned out to be 7am due to confusion with the time change! To find out about our next outing, join us on April 21st.
- ☺ **Fundraiser:** On May 1st is the Annual Aviator's March at Chievres Air Base (more info on this in the PAO section). But we are hoping to hold a bake sale in conjunction with HHC selling burgers and dogs. If you aren't busy, please plan on joining us that day - the money will be used to offset costs of our Family Day trips and group activities.

HHC**361-5288**

For April the HHC is having a company Trip to Paris on 24 April 04. There is no charge for this event, which is exclusively for HHC soldiers; family members are welcome to attend on space available basis. We plan to leave Daumerie at 0700 and return around midnight. Contact 1SG or HHC Commander to reserve.

BOSS**361-5301**

- Interested in a spring getaway to the historic city of Rome? BOSS is going to Rome May 25-27th. Round trip flight plus 2 nights (double occupancy) accommodation is 170 Euro per person. A deposit of 80 Euro is required NLT Thursday, February 26th. POC at DSN 423-4644. This is open to Single Soldiers only.
- The Chievres/SHAPE BOSS program web site: www.80asg.army.mil/boss.htm is your place for the latest information on BOSS happenings. All Unit BOSS Reps are asked to visit and encourage unit members to check out the site. As a reminder, the official BOSS email address is: 80asgboss@benelux.army.mil. Mail for this box goes to several BOSS members and is checked daily. This email address can be used by anyone to pass along information, make suggestions, or to request information.
- Sumo Suits are available for rent for \$50 or 50€ per day. Personnel renting the suits are required to provide their own mats. Anyone interested can contact DSN 361-5562.

AER (Army Emergency Relief)**361-5562**

AER is a private nonprofit organization incorporated in 1942 by the Secretary of War and the Army Chief of Staff. AER's mission is to provide emergency financial assistance to soldiers. That can include help with emergency financial needs for food, rent or utilities, emergency transportation and vehicle repair, funeral expenses, medical/dental expenses, personal needs when pay is delayed or stolen. It can come in the form of an interest-free loan, a grant if repayment of loan will cause undue hardship, or a combination of the two. We are now right in the midst of the 2004 Fundraising campaign. Please consider helping the Army take care of its own. Contact your unit rep. If you are in need of AER assistance, contact ACS at 423-4824.

ARMAF-B**065-22.85.39****Retiree Buffet Luncheon Sunday 18 April**

The Association of Retired Members of the US Armed Forces in Belgium (ARMAF-B) is having a Buffet Luncheon for all members, guests, and any who might be interested in our organization. The luncheon will be at 1200 Sunday 18 April 2004 at the Hotel Nivelles-Sud (halfway between Mons and Brussels, just off the Nivelles-Sud exit on Autoroute E19). The cost will be € 35.00 for members and spouses, € 40.00 for guests, for a meal that includes an aperitif, unlimited service at the buffet line, wine and water with the meal, coffee and dessert following, with excellent fellowship throughout! This Buffet Lunch has always been a great success - this one promises to be yet another one - please join us for a most pleasant Sunday!

CHAPEL ACTIVITIES**SHAPE Chapel Sunday Services**

423-5601

SHAPE Catholic Parish (0900)

SHAPE Christian Worship (1130)

Church of Christ (1300)

065-59.50.90

SHAPE Anglican/Episcopal (1015)

423-5693

SHAPE PWOC: (Thursdays, 0930)

065-67.8271

SHAPE CWOC: (Various days)

065-84.5896

SHAPE PMOC: (Tuesdays, 0700)

Daumerie Protestant Congregation (1045)

361-5888

Daumerie PWOC: (Wednesdays, 1830)

065-59.0773

In April we will be starting *To Live is Christ* study.

Daumerie PMOC: (Wednesdays, 1900)

361-5888

Family Life Center

423-5653

SHAPE Chapel Special Holy Week Services:**PROTESTANT SERVICES**

Good Friday, 09 Apr 04 - East Chapel - 11:00, by Norwegian Chaplain

CATHOLIC SERVICES:

02 Apr 04 - East Chapel, Stations of the Cross, 1800 hrs.

08 Apr 04 - East Chapel, Holy Thursday Mass, 1900 hrs

09 Apr 04 - East Chapel, Good Friday Service, 1900 hrs.

10 Apr 04 - East Chapel, Easter Vigil, 1900 hrs

ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL SERVICES

Maundy Thursday 1900 Blessed Sacrament Chapel Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 1130 East Chapel Ecumenical Liturgy of Good Friday

followed by Anti Communion in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Easter Day 1015 East Chapel Mass of the Resurrection

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**Body of Christ**

Let us rejoice as we enter this time of year and celebrate together as a Body of Christ. Just some thoughts to keep us in check:

If we despise our brother or sister, our worship is unreal, and forfeits every divine promise. When we come before God with our hearts full of contempt, and unreconciled with our neighbors, we are, both individually and collectively, not worshipping. Not just our own anger, but the fact that someone has been hurt, damaged, or disgraced by us, erects a barrier between us and God. Let us therefore as the Body of Christ examine ourselves, and see whether we have not often enough wronged our fellow men. Let us see whether we have tried to win popularity by falling in with the world's hatred, its contempt and its contumely. Let the fellowship of Christ so examine itself today, and ask whether, at the hour of prayer and worship, any accusing voices intervene and make this special time vain.

May God richly bless you this Easter season.

CHAPEL YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Youth of the Chapel

423-5653

- Meets every Wednesday at 6:15-6:45 for dinner, and then 6th and 7th graders split off for G.A.P. while 8th - 12th graders meet for U-Turn. Meets once a month on Sunday afternoons for FUN special events!
- During the first week of Easter break both groups are invited to take part in a service project returning to a nursing home and orphanage the group worked at last year. If you are available April 6, 7 or 8, please consider driving and or attending these projects. We need adults and youth who can speak French and or chaperone the youth. Please contact 067-56.16.50 if you can help.
- The Christian community is working on developing a Youth Ministry Council that will be made up of parents, chaplains, and older youth. We want to honor our commitment to God and to our youth by developing a ministry mission statement, and building a team of volunteers that will support the overall ministry. Please consider helping in one of the 5 Pillars. For more information please call 423-5601.

GIRL SCOUTS

SHAPE is at risk of losing USA Girl Scouts and we need your help to make sure that doesn't happen. **We need adult volunteers.** We need adults (man or woman, single or married, parent or not) to serve on our Overseas Committee. The Overseas Committee is composed of individuals who conduct the administration functions of the Girl Scouts at SHAPE. Some of the Committee positions are short term, some are year-long. Some require an hour per week, some an hour or more per month. We have something for everyone! There are three positions (Overseas Committee Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer) that must be filled annually, or we will lose Girl Scouts on SHAPE. The current Overseas Committee Chairperson's term ends 1 June, so it is crunch time: we **will** lose Girl Scouts at SHAPE if we do not fill this position!!

DCA (Director, Community Activities)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTER (CAC)

Email Address: ChievresActivityCenter@Benelux.Army.Mil or Telephone: 361-5506

The 80th ASG Community Activities Center, commonly referred to as the CAC, is available to authorized individuals and organizations for rent. Certain portions of the CAC may be rented (such as the Community Room, half of the Field House, both the Community Room and half of the Field House) or the entire Field House area. The Fitness Center and Library are not available for rent. Events are scheduled by blocks of time, and one block of time is generally considered 4 hours. CAC rental fees for specific area usage and equipment usage are outlined below and are subject to availability of equipment and staff on a first-come-first-serve basis.

- a. Community Room private usage fees start at \$50.00/block
- b. Organizational / large group usage fees start at \$100.00/block
- c. Overnight usage fees start at \$150.00/ night
- d. Kitchen to prepare food - \$25.00/block/event
- e. Outdoor grill - \$25.00/block/event
- f. Inflatable "bouncy" - \$25.00/block/event
- g. Karaoke at CAC - \$25.00/hour
- h. Karaoke at other location - \$50.00 set up + \$25.00/hour
- i. Stage - \$25.00/event
- j. Dance floor - \$50.00/event
- k. Large Screen TV with VCR/DVD - \$25.00/block

Rental Equipment Price List:

<u>Item</u>	<u>\$ Daily</u>	<u>\$ Weekend</u>	<u>\$ Weekly</u>
a. 20X20 Canopy	40.00	80.00	200.00
b. Trailer Grill	25.00	50.00	125.00
c. Folding Table+2 benches	4.00	8.00	20.00
d. Folding Table	2.00	4.00	10.00
e. Folding Chair 1.00	2.00	5.00	
f. Dunk Tank	25.00	50.00	N/A

Delivery Fees (distance one way)

	<u>Fee</u>
(1) up to 20KM	\$10.00
(2) 21 to 40 KM	\$25.00
(3) 41 to 80 KM	\$50.00

For more information on regulations and restrictions on usage, facility reservations, or equipment rental, please contact CAC Manager at DSN: 361-5506 or send your questions to our email address: CommunityActivityCenter@Benelux.Army.Mil

CRD (Community Recreation Division)**361-5589**

- 9 April 04, 2100-2300, Prime Time Lounge, Armed Forces Entertainment Europe presents "WOODEN", an all-American rock & roll show band. FREE ADMISSION for everyone to see "WOODEN". Call 361-5540 or 5589 for more information.
- **Power lifting Tournament** - (Saturday) **24 April 2004**. The tournament will be held in the CAC on Chievres from 0800 - ?. Need 10 volunteers, by the 1st week in April to help spot and load the weights. Unit reps will be contacted for names of volunteers. Please help support. (DSN 423-5023).

CHIEVRES LIBRARY**361-5767**

- 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 April: Story and Craft Time, from 1630-1700. Come join the fun!
- The library will be closed on 9 April in observance of Good Friday.

PRIME TIME LOUNGE**361-5540**

- **Rock Concert with "Wooden"**, on 9 April, at 9 p.m.
- **PTL Country Night**. April 10th. Come enjoy country music and if you're interested, participate in free dance lessons to boot.
- **PTL Karaoke Nights**. April 1st, 15th and 29th at 8 p.m.
With 10,000 songs to choose from, you can sing the night away!
- The **Prime Time Lounge**, Bldg 7 on Daumerie Caserne, is open Mon-Fri for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Come in and have some great food in a cozy pub atmosphere. Or give us a call to let us help you plan your next special event with our caterers and/or our newly renovated facility.

ACS (Army Community Service)**423-5777****Installation Volunteer Coordinator****423-4270**

The deadline for submissions of volunteers for the annual volunteer recognition ceremony will be April 21st. Check for all forms and qualifications, by stopping by bldg 318 and pick them up. They are planning a blowout of a party for all our volunteers on May 25th, at the Officers' Club, for lunch.

Family Advocacy Program**423-5263**

- The SHAPE/Chievres Community's 3rd annual Children's Wellness Fair is coming up on Saturday, April 3, 2004 from 10-2 at the CAC on Chievres. The Fair will include face painting, a visit from the Sparky the Fire Mascot and Chievres Fire Dept, as well as many child-focused organizations. Come out to visit the booths and receive some free items as well. The event is open to all US ID cardholders.
- Anger Management Course series begins on 6 April, 1000-1200, at bldg 318.

Employment Readiness

Job Information Fair at the Hotel Maisieres on May 27th, from 10-12 - See what's out there!

New Parent Support Program

423-4274

- The **New Parent Support Program** is a supportive based program that provides families expecting a child or with children from birth through the age of three with the following services: Education, home visits, support, playmornings and parenting classes. The program also has a video and book library with topics that range from pregnancy, caring for an infant, to potty training.
- **Playmornings:** Children and parent play together for 2 hours. Open to parents with children up to the age of 4 on April 6th and 27th. Held in the Shape Health Facility EDIS Playroom. Snacks are provided.
- **Active Parenting Workshop** will be held April 20, 21, 22 at the Shape CDC from 6:45 - 8:15 p.m. The workshop is entitled 1,2,3,4 Parents specifically geared for parents with children between these ages. Topics will include discipline methods that work, how to prevent tantrums, how to make rules your child will follow, and great ways to take care of self. Childcare is free. Registration is requested by April 16, 2004.
- The NPSP is canvassing the community to determine interest in a **Dads 101** training course. This is a course that provides education for expectant and new dads. The course will provide men with the basics of caring for baby, enabling them to feel more comfortable in their roles as fathers. Dads provide the training. For more information, please contact the NPSP.

Financial Readiness

423-4824

- Here are the **Financial Readiness** classes offered in April:

Date	Start Time	End Time	Class Title
5 April	1000	1200	Personal Financial Readiness
6 April	1000	1200	Building a Spending Plan
8 April	1000	1200	Insurance: Which one?
9 April	1000	1200	Credit: Too Much of a Good Thing?
12 April	1000	1200	Checkbook Management: More Month than Money?
13 April	1000	1200	Savings and Investments: Where to Stash My Cash?
14 April	1000	1200	Debt Reduction the Easy Way,
16 April	1000	1200	Consumer Rights and Obligations

AFTB

423-5425

Our next level 2 & 3 concept blocks specializing in leadership skills are scheduled for April 26th and 27th. And what can AFTB do for me? AFTB is a program that strives to educate the military family (active duty, reserve, DoD Civilian employee and family members) in a wide variety of skills and abilities fostering personal and family preparedness. There are courses on communication, resources, team building, professional growth and leadership development, group dynamics, rules and regs, and developing family support organizations, and unit/military structure. Call for details on exactly when and where these classes are held.

Newcomers' Page

- ✓ **Relocation Assistance Program** **423-4332**
 - **NEWCOMER'S BRIEF.** Learn all about the Benelux area on April 8 at 8:30 a.m. at the WEB office in the Hotel Maisieres.
 - **SPONSORSHIP TRAINING.** Be the best sponsor that you can be by attending this class and learning all the basics. April 7 at 10 a.m.
 - **MAKE THE RIGHT MOVE.** Are you prepared for your next PCS move? Attend this class on April 7 at 2 p.m. and make this your best PCS move ever.
 - **TAKE THE BUS.** On April 8 at 1:30 p.m. meet at the Hotel Maisieres for an introduction to the Belgium Bus system. Sign up at ACS, Bldg 318 and head out to Mons.
 - **TAKE THE TRAIN.** On Friday, April 30, learn how to utilize the train system. Children are welcome. The cost is €18.50 for adults and cost for children 6-12 is €9. Children under 6 are free. The bus leaves from Bldg. 318 at 8:30 a.m. and will take you to the train station. Sign up early at ACS and learn first hand how to get around in Europe without a car.
- ✓ **Health Services Orientation** will be held every third Thursday of the month from 10-12 until further notice. The workshop will be followed by a tour of Ambroise Pare hospital in the afternoon where participants will have a chance to see where the hospital is and how it works before they need it in a crisis situation.
- ✓ **L.A.B. (Learning About Belgium)** **423-4269**

L.A.B. is a **FREE 3** half-day program open to **ALL SHAPE & Pfp** personnel & their family members, designed to assist them during their settling-in process at the beginning of their new life at the cross-roads of Europe. The next "*Learning About Belgium*" (*L.A.B.*) Program will take place on **26, 27, & 29 April** (Monday, Tuesday & Thursday) from **0900-1300** each day at the International Community (IC) Club. Reservations on Shape ext. **4269** (or on a civilian phone: 065.44.426). And remember - it's *free*!
- ✓ **W.E.B. (Welcoming Everyone to Belgium)** **366-6252**

New to Belgium? W.E.B. wants to help. Let us know that you are coming, or that you have arrived - we want extend a personal welcome. We can help you solve problems, quick translations, give directions, or sort through information. We have lots of current community and local events, ads of items for sale, and all the latest opportunities for Newcomers. Come in and browse through the sightseeing information, travel books and maps. We are located in the American Lounge at the Hotel Maisieres and our office is open 5 days a week, from 9-12. You can also contact us via the ACS Outreach Coordinator, at the above number, or e-mail us at Wel2Bel@benelux.army.mil. We're waiting for you!
- ✓ **"Rendez-Vous with French Language"** A new class at the W.E.B. Center, 20 April from 10:00 through 12:00; Learn your first useful French words, Where to learn French, Where to get help with French, How to learn it.
- ✓ If you haven't received your **Welcome Packet**, with phone directory, travel guide, local restaurant guide, and many more important details, stop by the WEB today and get yours!

SNAP**361-6143**

- The SNAP program has developed the 80th ASG Communities Safety Survey! This survey was created by the 80th ASG Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program to assess the needs and concerns of families residing in the local housing areas. We ask that families take the time out to answer safety related questions so that SNAP, the Provost Marshal's Office and the U.S. Housing office can better serve your housing and safety needs. This survey will also be available online at <http://www.80asg.army.mil/SNAP/index.htm> . This link will allow you to fill out and submit your survey responses online. To request a survey or if you have any further questions related to this program please feel free to contact SNAP Program Coordinator at 068-27-6143 !
- SNAP is actively seeking Volunteers and Community Observers to help our quest to combat terrorism and crime in our community. SNAP has these upcoming initiatives including:
 - Kid Kredential's Child Identification Program
 - SNAP Bicycle Registration Program
 - SNAP Housing Communities Safety Survey
 - SNAP Neighborhood Watch
 - And many more on it's way.

Remember SNAP belongs to the community! The basis for this program is neighbors looking after each other and their communities. So please get involved, and help keep your 80th ASG community safe!

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the SNAP Coordinator. And please remember, "Making Neighborhoods Safer is a SNAP, with community participation".

MORALE, WELFARE BRANCH**423-4269**

The date for re-opening the SHAPE pool has changed from 29 Mar to 19 April 2004. Due to unexpected damage discovered by the contractor during the project, additional work was needed to make the pool fully operational again. The pool staff regrets that there is a delay, but look forward to offering the SHAPE community a newly renovated pool after 19 April.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER**423-3312**

- Auditions for *THE WOMEN*, by Clare Booth Luce, April 21st at 1200-1400 and April 22nd 1800-2000;
- The rock band WOODEN will be playing the SHAPE IC Club on the 8th of April at 1900
- Rick Moore Magic Show 4 May at the IC Club at 1930. More details soon.
- Salsa Classes - Every Monday at the IC Club from 1830-2030!
- Lunchtime Acting and Playwrighting Classes will begin a second session on the 19th of April, meeting Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1200.
- ACTING CLASS - Evening Classes will begin 4 May 1800-1930; The session will run through June, will meet once or twice a week, and will cost 20€ for the session

ARTS & CRAFTS CENTER**423-4680**

- There are many children's classes being taught during the Easter Break: ceramics painting, silver jewelry, polymer clay, candles, Swarovski jewelry, macramé friendship bracelets and more. Call to find out specific dates, age requirements and prices.

EDUCATION CENTER**423-3466/6367**

- **French Headstart Classes:** April 19-30, 1330-1630; HEADSTART is a 30 hour introduction to the French language and Belgian culture. Instructors are native-speakers of the language being taught. The course is mandatory for all USAREUR soldiers E1 to O5. Other active duty military and adult family members may attend on a space available basis. If there is still space available, then the openings may be filled by any member of the NATO/SHAPE Community. There is no fee and a textbook is provided.

PAO (Public Affairs Office)**361-5694**

- Two large flea markets and antiques fairs are scheduled this month: Ciney Puces on 10, 11 and 12 April from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. at the Ciney Expo and International Antiques and Curiosa Market on 23, 14 and 25 April from 3 to 7 p.m. on Friday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday at the Brussels K. Art Expo (near Koekelberg). For more information on the local events, check the "entertainment and dining" page on the 80th ASG website under "community" or call the Public Affairs Office at DSN 361-5419.
- Don't miss the Aviators' March on Chièvres Air Base on May 1st and learn about the local history. Registration for the march is from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Community Activity Center. The Aviators' march is an official IVV march with a 20 km, 15 km, 10 km and 5 km route going along historical sites in the close vicinity of Chièvres Air Base. At these sites, panels will be displayed on which the information with pictures pertaining to the history of that particular site is given in four different languages. For those who don't like to walk, entertainment is provided at the Community Activity Center to include a magic show and a rock concert. Access to Chièvres Air Base will be through gate #1 (Brugelette). Pre-registration is mandatory for those who are not in possession of an installation pass. For information, please call the 80th ASG Public Affairs Office at DSN 361-5419.

NORTHERN LAW CENTER**423-4906**

- Tax Preparation Service will be available through June 30th (June 15th is the filing deadline if you are living overseas). The NLC also has all the state forms available.
- There has been a new traffic code since 22 Dec 03 which has a significant impact on the amount of traffic fines and on how those fines must be paid. It is important for every person driving in Belgium to be aware of these changes. The fines can be very, very steep, and the police can demand payment on the spot, or your car will be impounded. These fines can apply to anything from driving (any speed) over the speed limit, not wearing a seat belt, using a cell phone while driving, driving in a bus lane, failure to maintain a safe distance between vehicles, failure to yield to priority vehicles, crossing white lines, etc. For a copy of the Fact Sheet, contact the NLC or your unit immediately.

SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER**361-5882**

- Our PTSA will hold a General Membership Meeting on 30 March at 1800 in the School Cafeteria. All parents are invited. The PTSA is sponsoring a Book Fair targeted towards elementary student's reading interests on March 29 and 30 during regular school hours. The Fair will also be open on the 30th from 1900 to 2000 after the membership meeting. On March 31, the Book Fair will be open from 9 - 12. The PTSA will be sponsoring a Bike Rodeo on Saturday, May 8th. Be on the lookout for more info to come on this safety first program.
- Both American sections will be looking for parents to serve as elected representatives on their School Advisory Committees, commonly known as the SAC. If you would enjoy using your time and talents to improve your child's school, you have what we need! Please call to discuss the responsibilities and benefits of this very worthwhile program. Elementary SAC chairperson , 065 622548. The High School SAC chairman, 065 587949.
- If you are sponsoring an incoming family, pick up registration packets at the schools and send them to the newcomers. Much of the paperwork can be done in advance. If they aren't coming in until late summer, contact the school so they know of the newcomers' arrival.
- **Upcoming Dates to remember:**
 - **2 April** - Students dismissed at 1300
 - **5-16 April** - Spring Recess (No School for students and teachers)
 - **22 April** - International Education Day (Students dismissed at 1200)
 - **3 May** - May Day Observance - No school for students/Inservice for teachers

Elementary School:**423-5718**

Missoula Children's Theater will be here May 10-14. They have auditions on Monday after school, rehearse all week (during and after school), and put on two performances on Friday afternoon and evening. They will also present workshops to the elementary students from various sections of our international school. Because of the drama program at the high school, this residency is only for students in Grades K-6.

SHAPE American High School:**423-5715**

2004 Football Camp: Wurzburg American High School will host the 2004 European Football Camp. As in the past, this will be open to all high school players. The dates for this year's camp will be from 18-20 August 2004. Fundamentals, conditioning, group work, position skills and drills will be the emphases stressed. The camp costs \$75, and includes camp photo, practice jersey, t-shirt, drinks and awards. Breakfast will be served each morning; hotdogs will be served after the evening practice. Evening meals and lunch will be the responsibility of each athlete (many food services are available on base) Check out www.HSfootballeurope.com for more information about the camp.

AMERICAN RED CROSS**423-4008**

- **The following classes will be held in April:**
 - **CPR/FA CLASSES** provides training in cardiac, choking and respiratory emergencies for Adults, Children and Infants. Also includes instruction in Basic First Aid: April 27th & 28th (Tues/Wed) - 1730-2130
 - **BABYSITTER'S TRAINING** prepares teens for the responsibilities of providing basic care and supervision to infants and children during their important developmental years: April 24th (Sat) - 0900-1700
- **Crystal Bingo** Come to the IC club for you chance to win one of two beautiful chandeliers, along with many other kinds of Czech Republic crystal. Play Crystal Bingo held at the IC club on Thursday, April 29th, by the Amercian Red Cross. Regular Bingo will start at 1900 hours and early bird will start at 1830 hours. We are selling GRAND TOMBOLA tickets Monday thru Friday from 0830 to 1630 at the American Red Cross main office in building 318.

COMMISSARY**361-5044**

- During the week of 4 April thru 9 April, the Chievres Commissary will be hosting some special guest. The DeCA Director, MG Mike Wiedemer and his wife Pam will visit us from Ft Lee, VA. In addition the senior enlisted advisor to the Director, Chief Master Sergeant Deborah Brian will accompany them. We will have Ms. Bonnie Kanitz (European Region Director) and Mrs. Kay Blakley (EU Region Consumer Advocate). This visit should create some memorable moments for the Chievres Commissary and its staff.
- **CASE LOT SALE!!!** Mark your calendars, May 28-29-30, the Chievres Commissary will be holding another case lot sale. It's in the planning stages now and more information will be provided as it becomes available. Information will be made available at the commissary and on the web (www.commissaries.com).
- The commissary will be open for regular hours on Easter Sunday, April 11th, 10:00 AM thru 7:00 PM for your shopping convenience.

AAFES

- **PX-tra:** It is time to get back outside! The Grand Opening of the Chievres PX-tra Garden Center was 20 March. Come in and see our fresh garden flowers and bulbs, lawn mowers and yard tools, trampolines and yard toys, bikes for the whole family, lawn furniture, patio furniture, garden decorations, grills, yard games and much, much more!
- **Main Store:** The main store is currently undergoing some beautification. They will be putting in new carpeting for the next 2 weeks. There will be some confusion, as items will be moved around in the store to accommodate the work, and the management apologizes for any inconvenience to its customers. Please be patient!
- **Food Court:** There are now Low Carb choices at Burger King! Ask for the menu, or the nutrition guidelines, the next time you are there. The American Eatery is currently offering taco salad - another healthy choice.

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES in April*

SHAPE Trips and Tours	423-3884	Outdoor Recreation	423-5380
Russia Trip	3 April - 9 April	Grottos of Han Family Trip	15 April
Spring Break in Spain	10-18 April	Horseback riding in Chaleux	17 April
London for a day	17 April	Horseback riding in Cuesmes	25 April
Gouda and Keukenhof	24 April	Deep Sea Fishing	24 April
Rhine Boat Tour	2 May		
* Plan ahead!:			
25-28 June	Wales (Bus + Ferry)		
4-11 July	Norwegian Fjords (Bus + Cruise ship)		
31 July-8 August	Ireland (Bus + Ferry)		

Officials extend stateside space-A travel test

by Tech. Sgt. Mark Diamond
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL. (AFPN) -- The one-year test to expand space-available travel privileges to family members of active-duty and retired service members traveling within the continental United States has been extended until further notice, according to Air Mobility Command's air transportation division officials.

The extension will allow the test to continue while office of the secretary of defense officials complete their evaluation of the test, wrote Lt. Col. Darcy Lilley, chief of the division's passenger policy branch, in a recent message.

Under the space-A test phase, the family members of active-duty and retired service members are able to travel space-A aboard military flights when accompanied by their sponsors, said John Lundeby, of the passenger policy branch. He said the test does not apply to "gray-area retirees" -- Guard and Reserve Airmen who are retired but are not yet eligible for retired pay and benefits.

Mr. Lundeby explained that in December 2000, the commander of U.S. Transportation Command outlined the proposed test as a way to improve quality-of-life privileges for service members and their families. After reviewing the proposal, defense officials approved the one-year test period.

"Prior to the test, regulations prohibited family members from flying space-available within the CONUS," said Mr. Lundeby. "This privilege was available only to active-duty and retired military people. During the test period, dependents can accompany them."

To register for space-A travel, active-duty sponsors must be on leave or a pass and remain in the status while awaiting travel and through the entire travel period, officials said.

Additional space-A travel and signup information is available through the passenger policy branch Web site at <http://public.amc.af.mil/SPACEA/spacea.htm>. A list of passenger terminals and phone numbers can be found there. (Courtesy of AMC News Service)

DIRECTOR OF LOGISTICS (DOL)

- **CIF (Central Issue Facility) Closure/Move:** During the week of 19-26 April the CIF will close to facilitate the move to our new facilities. On 27 April the CIF will open at Hangar # 3 on CAB. Bona fide emergencies will be handled on a case by case basis. For more information contact either DSN 361-5187 or DSN 361-5542."

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW)

The season for loaning lawn tools and equipment begins April 1st at the Self-Help Store.

BENELUX FINANCE OFFICE (BFO)

423-4098

- Stopping Combat Zone Entitlements: Each soldier returning from a Combat Zone will process through finance for a one-on-one review. We will monitor the changes but ask that units and individuals do a cross-check to ensure accuracy.
- BAH Start Date for Single West Point Grads - Update: It was reported that effective 9 December, single West Point Academy graduates are not entitled to draw BAH at the single rate until they report in to their first Permanent Duty Station. DFAS-HQ has reconsidered their decision and since conferred with HQDA and OSD and has decided to complete a more extensive review of this matter. In the interim, it is the decision of DFAS-HQ that we will revert to the policy in effect prior to 9 December 2003, which is to pay West Point graduates BAH based upon the West Point location rate. Members who have graduated since 9 December 2003 are entitled to back BAH. A final decision is expected in early March.
- TSP Open Season: The next open season to start or change your TSP is May 2004.
- BFO Closings: We will be closed 9 and 12 April for the SHAPE holiday. On 16 April, we will have minimal manning in support of our annual Finance Ball. Please plan your financial needs accordingly. Units can contact the BFO for emergency issues as needed.

ANDREWS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

361-5918

- Andrews will be sponsoring National Credit Union Youth Week April 18-24. If you're under 18, just deposit your savings during Youth Week and you'll be part of the National Youth Savings Challenge. 10 young savers from credit unions nationwide will each win \$100!

GRANDMA'S ATTIC

361-5219

Grandma's Attic will be closed during spring break, from 3 April - 17 April. Volunteers that remain in the area may open, during this time, but it won't be on a regular schedule.

YOUTH SERVICES

423-5635

- **29 Mar-4 April -2nd Enrollment Period for Youth Services Classes.** If you've wanted to sign up for Violin, Viola, Piano, Guitar, Ballet, Tap, French, Cello, Gymnastics, Swimming, Tae Kwon Do, or Tennis, now is your chance. Call today to see if there is space. The next session begins 19 April and runs through 18 June.
- **5-16 April - *Spring Break Camp*** Daily activities planned for camp such as a scavenger hunt on SHAPE, acting and drama workshop, 2 trips to Brussels, teamwork races, and more. Must have current registration.
- **13-16 April - *Spring Break Trip*** to Prague, Czech Republic from the 13th - 16th. Open to youth in grades 6-12. Cost is 250 Euros per person; 100 Euro deposit due March 16th. Sign up now to explore Prague Castle, Lesser Town, Prague Old Town, Bohemian Goulash, and authentic crystal!
- **16 April: Trip to Brussels, 0900-1700.** Visit the Japanese Tower, Chinese Pavilion, enjoy lunch at Chi-Chi's and shopping! 25 Euros per participant.
- **22 April: Parent Challenge Night** - This is a great way for parents and their children to build partnerships in a fun, relaxing atmosphere. A parent and child make up a team, and that team competes against other teams in various events requiring strong communication and listening skills. After the tournament, a delicious supper is served to all teams. Tournament begins at 1800, with dinner served at 1900.
- **24 April -- Baseball and Softball Opening Day Ceremonies** - this is a change to what went out last month. Ceremony will be held at 10:00, on the baseball diamond by the library. "Take me out to the Ballgame!"
- **ACE Adventure Camp 2004** - get ready! The summer is fast approaching, and the ACE adventure camp has its schedule mapped out. In addition to their weekly camps, there are 2 special camps being offered this summer: Water Sports Camp from 21-25 June, and Space Camp from 9-13 August. Both camps are 185 Euros per participant, which includes all meals, lodging and transportation. Both require advance registration. Call NOW to find out more!

LOCAL CULTURAL OPPORTUNITY

An Exceptional Musical Opportunity !

On Saturday 3 April 2004, at 2000, an Orchestral Concert of Viennese Music will be performed by the Belgian Symphonia Orchestra at Parc Paradisio, near Chievres Air Base. The concert is sponsored by the City Council of the Commune of Lens in their cultural series. Tickets are € 12.00. (But for those living in the Commune of Lens, plus 1 guest each, a special price of € 6.00 is offered. Some document - Belgian ID, telephone or electricity bill, etc, should be presented to establish residence in the Commune of Lens to qualify for the reduced price.)

Tickets are to be paid for at the concert entrance. All are encouraged to arrive early to secure a good seat. Doors open at 1900. This concert has been offered at various locations throughout Belgium, always with great success! Don't miss it!

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

361-5557

The newsletter goes out each month to all employees of the 80th ASG via the global e-mail distribution, and is mailed home to family members. It is now available online at the 80th ASG's website: www.80asg.army.mil - click on *Community* and then *News*. The deadline to submit information is the 23rd of each month for the following month's issue.